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ABSTRACT

Data relating to population and family planning in nine foreign countries are presented in these situation reports. Countries included are Denmark, France, German Federal Republic, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and Switzerland. Information is provided in the following areas where appropriate and if it is available: (1) statistics on population, birth and death rates, G.N.P., for 1950, 1960, and latest available date; (2) general background of social welfare, education, health, medical care, and insurance; (3) the planned parenthood situation; (4) planned parenthood association and its history; (5) government attitude toward planned parenthood and family welfare; (6) legislation for family planning and contraception; (7) facts and figures on birth control; (8) planned parenthood training; (9) responsible parenthood and sex education; (10) International Planned Parenthood Federation Aid; and (11) other related organizations. (BL)

Situation Report

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Country DENMARK

Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1

01. 839–2911/6

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STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			43,069 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION		4,581,000	4,910,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE			0.8 per 100 (1963-67)
BIRTH RATE	18.7	16.6	16.8 per 1000 (1967)
DEATH RATE	8.8	9.5	9.9 per 1000 (1967)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	28.9	21.5	15.8 per 1000 (1967)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			972,002 (1966)
POPULATION UNDER 15			24%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$2,070 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			3.3% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR			570 (1966)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			109 (1964-65)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The economy is well developed. The social welfare system includes health insurance and child and maternity allowances. Education is free and compulsory for ages 7 to 14.

SE 011 382

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Advice is available through the public health services and from the Foreningen for Familieplanlaegning.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION

Foreningen for Familieplanlaegning,
Aurehøjvej 4,
2900 Hellerup,
Copenhagen.

President: Dr.Agnete Braestrup (IPPF President)

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

The Association was founded in 1956, and became a full member of the IPPF in the same year.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The Government wholly supports planned parenthood and sex education, and works in close cooperation with the Association. The Association cooperates with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Defence (several pamphlets on contraception have been produced for the Army).

The Danish International Development Authority (DANIDA) established a planned parenthood committee in 1966. In addition to providing an annual grant to the IPPF, Denmark has also contributed to the UN Fund for Population Activities.

LEGISLATION

Under the terms of the Pregnancy Hygiene Act of 1966, anybody over the age of 15 may be given contraceptive advice by a physician or clinic. Physicians are obliged to offer contraceptive advice to women after delivery or abortion. Legislation of 1958 makes it compulsory for human reproduction to be included in biology syllabus from the 7th Grade onwards (14 years old).

A law allowing abortion on socio-medical indications was passed in 1970. In connection with this law and the Pregnancy Hygiene Act, a grant is available through the Ministry of Interior by which expenses in connection with contraceptive advice may be recovered.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Association has a number of clinics in Copenhagen and has recently opened a centre for teenagers where they can obtain advice. The FF distributes good quality contraceptives through the pharmacies, under the name PLAN. Condoms are tested by the Danish Pharmacy Owners' Testing Laboratory (DAK). An IUD (Antigon), orals, and spermicides are manufactured in Denmark.

A survey, The Use of Contraception by Young Mothers in Copenhagen, by Dr A. Braestrup (J.biosoc. Sci. (1971) 3,43-60) indicates that knowledge of contraception is now general in Copenhagen and that the majority of people practise contraception.

TRAINING

The Association trains student and postgraduate midwives, and has given lectures on planned parenthood to students from developing countries.

RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND SEX EDUCATION

The Second Report of the State Sex Education Committee has been published and the Education Minister is preparing a bill on sex education.

The Association has its own educational consultants and is cooperating with the Danish Teachers Association on lectures and demonstrations of teaching material, as well as with principals of primary schools. The Association has organized a sex education conference for teachers, and has produced a sex education glossary and reading lists.

Situation Report

Distribution

LIMITED

Country FRANCE

Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1

01. 839–2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			547,026 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	41,736,000	45,684,000	50,320,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE			0.9 per 100 (1963-1968)
BIRTH RATE	19.5	17.9	16.8 per 1000 (1968)
DEATH RATE	13.5	11.4	11.0 per 1000 (1968)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE			20.4 per 1000 (1968)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			9,998,774 (1966)
POPULATION UNDER 15			25%
GNP PER CAPITA		1,270 (1963)	US$2,130 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			3.7% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR			850 (1966)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			100 (1964)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The social welfare system includes health insurance and child and maternity allowances. Education is free and compulsory for ages 6-16.

SE011 382

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Advice is available from the centres of the Mouvement Français pour le Planning Familial.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION

Mouvement Français pour le Planning Familial,
2 rue des Colonnes,
Paris 2e.

President: Professor A.Lwoff

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

MFPF was founded in 1956 and became a full member of the IPPF in 1965.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The Government favours an increase in the birth rate in metropolitan France. Family allowances are generous, and these were increased at the same time as the 1967 law, repealing the 1920 legislation against contraception, was passed. On the other hand, in the Overseas Départements of Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Réunion, the Government favours a reduction in the birth rate. The 1967 legislation prohibits publicity for planned parenthood, except in medical journals.

IEGISLATION

The law of 28 December 1967, modifying the law of 1920 on contraception, has yet to be practically applied. Two regulations relating to the sale and import of contraceptives, and to the manner of their presceiption, have been published but are not yet applicable. Although oral contraceptives are sold as drugs, diaphragms, spermicides, and IUDs are not officially on sale.

Other regulations, governing planned parenthood centres, have yet to be published.

Thus, although contraception is no longer illegal, the activities of the MFPF are severely restricted.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The MFPF runs over 300 advice centres, of which two only actually provide contraceptives (on a pilot project basis); the others refer to physicians trained by the Collège des Medecins.

A planned parenthood centre has been established in a polyclinique in Paris with social workers, family guidance workers, and gynaecologists. Here patients pay the equivalent of 20% of the cost of treatment.

The MFPF has received a grant from the National Sickness Benefit Fund, and has applied for a grant from the Family Allowances Fund.

The annual incidence of induced abortion is estimated at about half the number of live births.

TRAINING

The MFPF College des Médecins trains physicians in contraceptive techniques, and over 2,000 (including 500 gynaecologists) are now prescribing.

The MFPF sex education committee is responsible for coordinating activities on a national basis. Lectures have been given for both teachers and students and the Association has produced a number of visual aids in this field.

The association produces a quarterly journal, "Planning Familial", which is on sale publicly in kiosks and newsagents.

Situation Report

Distribution LIMITED

Country GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1 01. 839-2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			247,973 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	47,847,000	53,224,000	58,707,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE		1.3	1.0 per 100 (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	16.5	17.8	14.8 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	10.7	11.4	12.2 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE			22.8 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			11,875,600 (1966)
POPULATION UNDER 15			23%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$ 1,970 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			3.4% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR			630 (1966)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			90 (1966)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The Federal social welfare system includes health insurance and child and maternity allowances. Education and health are the responsibility of the States (Länder). Education is compulsory for ages 6 to 18 and primary education is free.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Advice is available at the clinics of Pro Familia.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION

Pro Familia: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Familienplanung, e.V.,
Auf der Körnerwiese 5,
6 Frankfurt/Main 1.

President: Professor R.Kepp

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

Pro Familia became a member of the IPPF in 1952.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The present Government is favourably disposed to planned parenthood. The Ministry of Youth, Family and Health has specified a number of fields of activity, including research into the effectiveness of family education and advice, including planned parenthood and sex education.

For the first time, funds for development have been set aside for planned parenthood by the Ministry of Economics and the Ministry of Economic Co-operation.

Pro Familia has received both Federal and municipal grants for its work.

LEGISLATION

Abortion is prohibited, except on medical indications. The relevant paragraph (218) of the law is under review and proposals have been submitted by the Ministry by lawyers and various other organizations.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Association has branches in all Länder of the Federal Republic and runs over 30 clinics at which all methods of contraception, except the IUD, are available. The IUD is, nevertheless, offered at some university hospital clinics.

There are two condom manufacturers, one of diaphragms, and several of spermicides and oral contraceptives.

Induced abortion is believed to be widespread.

Pro Familia cooperates closely with the Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband and the Patitätisches Bildungswerk, of which it is a member. In addition, Pro Familia works closely with many women's organizations, as well as with the German Society of Gynaecologists.

TRAINING

The Association trains physicians, nurses and midwives, and an annual course is held at the University of Giessen for physicians. The Bundesärztekammer has arranged planned parenthood courses for physicians in cooperation with Pro Familia.

Other courses have been arranged for administrators and counsellors.

RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND SEX EDUCATION

Sex education is now obligatory in all secondary schools, and the Federal Ministry of Health has published a Sexualkunde-Atlas intended for use in the school curriculum from the age of 14. Pro Familia is increasingly requested by schools to provide speakers or to lead discussion groups with teaching staff, as well as to organize sex education programmes for schools. Up until now no proper training facilities for teaching sex education have been provided.

Some Pro Familia Land branches have established sex education committees, and prepared literature and courses.

Pro Familia is a member of the Working Committee on Sex Education in the Federal Ministry of Youth, Family and Health.

Situation Report

Distribution LIMITED

Country LUXEMBOURG Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1 01. 839–2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			2,586 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION		314,000	337,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE			0.7% (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	13.9	16.0	13.4 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	11.6	11.8	12.4 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	42.6	31.5	17.5 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			69,406 (1966)
POPULATION UNDER 15			22%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$2,170 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			3.0% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR			1,010 (1964)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			80 (1966)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The social welfare system includes health insurance and child and maternity allowances. Education is free and compulsory for ages 6 to 15.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Planned parenthood advice is available through the planned parenthood association.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION

La Famille Heureuse,
Mouvement Luxembourgeois pour le Planning Familial, (MLPF)
3, avenue Pescatore,
Luxembourg.

President: Mr. R. Gregorius

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

Founded 1965. IPPF Associate Member, 1966. The Association Centre was officially opened in May 1967.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

Although there is no government policy on planned parenthood, support is given to the Association. The Municipality of Luxembourg provides an annual grant which pays half the rent of the premises of the Centre. The Ministry of Public Health, and the Ministry of the Family and Social Security provide financial support for MLPF information and education activities.

LEGISLATION

There is no law against contraception. Abortion is forbidden.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Association runs clinics in Luxembourg and Schifflange and gives advice on all methods. In 1969, 80% of patients chose oral contraceptives, 10% caps; 6% injectibles; 2% IUDs. About 75% of those seeking advice came from Luxembourg, and the remainder mainly from France, German Federal Republic, and Italy. Induced abortion is common - 3-5,000 annually (of 5,000 births annually).

TRAINING

Physicians working for the Association have participated in the IPPF Europe and Near East Regional training scheme at the Hôpital Universitaire St. Pierre, Brussels.

RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND SEX EDUCATION

Lectures and courses are organized by the Association for school groups and adults on planned parenthood and sex education. The Ministry of Public Health has collaborated with the Association in providing audio-visual aids for these meetings. The Association considers that its main task is to educate people towards responsible parenthood, and this approach has been favourably publicised in the press and on radio and television programmes. It is estimated that about a third of patients visiting the clinic come as a result of this publicity.

Situation Report

Distribution LIMITED

Country POLAND

Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1

01. 839–2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			312,520 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	24,824,000	29,703,000	32,555,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE			1.0% (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	30.1	22.3	16.3 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	11.1	7.5	8.1 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE			34.3 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			7,160,100 (1967)
POPULATION UNDER 15			30%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$880 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			5.5% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR		870 (1963)	770 (1966)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			130 (1966)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The social welfare system includes health insurance and child and maternity allowances as well as paid maternity leave. Education is free and compulsory for ages 7 to 14.

IPPF SITUATION REPORT POLAND FEBRUARY, 1971. (2)

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Planned parenthood advice is widely available throughout the country.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION

Towarzystwo Planowania Rodziny, (TPR)
Ul Karowa 31,
Warsaw.

President: Professor Bolesław Gornicki

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

Founded in 1957, full member of the IPPF 1959. In the new circumstances existing after the Second World War, there was a situation of ever increasing abortion, lack of contraceptives, lack of physicians trained in contraceptive techniques, and complete lack of publications to popularise the idea of planned parenthood. Owing largely to the efforts of the TPR, planned parenthood services in Poland are now fully integrated with the health service. Advice is available in about 1,400 of the 'K' Kobiet (Woman) out-patient departments for women as well as in all gynaecological and obstetric wards in the hospitals throughout the country.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The positive government attitude towards planned parenthood is shown by its support of the TPR and the integration of planned parenthood with public health services of the country.

LEGISLATION

1956 legislation permits abortion on medico-social grounds. A law of 1959 requires physicians to offer contraceptive advice post abortum.

FACTS AND FIGURES

There are over 3,000 consultation centres throughout the country. Physicians are obliged to give advice on planned parenthood and every new mother has to sign a certificate saying that she had been given advice. In addition the TPR has its own clinics in Warsaw and Krakow. The TPR also manufacture through "Securitas" its own spermicide and cervical caps. Diaphragms are imported from the UK; IUDs and orals are manufactured. Contraceptives are also sold in chemists, stationery shops and various health institutions. 70% of the cost is born by social insurance.

There were an estimated 160,000 legal abortions in 1968, a significant decrease over the previous year. The number of women in the fertile age group is thought to be declining.

TRAINING

Contraception is included in the curriculum of gynaecology students. 5th year medical students have 2 hours on contraception and 6 hours on fertility and sterility. The Institute of Mother and Child organise conferences on oral contraception and the IUD for physicians.

RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND SEX EDUCATION

There is continual activity in this field. The TPR has its own publishing department and has produced literature on planned parenthood, sex education, infant care, hygiene, infertility, etc. Lectures on sex education have been introduced into the curriculum of the Polish Medical Academies, and the Minister of Education has recommended the implementation of a 32 hour programme on hygiene, including a 7 hour programme for sex education in secondary schools. The TPR supports such recommendations by arranging training courses for teachers and lectures for young people, as well as producing visual aids, literature etc. The TPR is also active in education in the army. A weekly radio programme is devoted to aspects of planned parenthood, sex education, pregnancy etc. There are also many T.V. programmes on these topics.

The Modern Family Research Centre conducts research on attitudes and views of youth on sex, love, marriage and family, and on marital difficulties. The first part of a study on "Married couples in conflict" has been published. The MFRC supervises a premarital and family consultation office, arranges discussions when the research is in progress, and evaluates the results of research on the contemporary family conducted by other institutions.

Situation Report

Distribution

LIMITED

Country PORTUGAL

Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1 01.839-2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			91,971 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	8,405,000	8,826,000	9,560,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE			0.9% (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	24.1	24.2	19.4 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	12.5	10.8	10.4 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	89.1	77.5	61.1 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			2,026,500 (1967)
POPULATION UNDER 15			29%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$460 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			5.0% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR			1200 (1968)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			170 (1966)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

There is a state social welfare fund. Health services are usually covered by private insurance organizations. Education is free and compulsory for ages 7 to 14.

IPPF SITUATION REPORT PORTUGAL FEBRUARY, 1971. (2)

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Planned parenthood advice is available through the planned parenthood association and at the University Hospital in Lisbon.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION

Associacao para o Planeamento da Familia (APF)
Rua Artilharia Um, 38-2°, Dto.,
LISBON, 1.

President: Professor A. Torres Pereira.

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

The APF was founded in July 1967, with the object of assisting families in matters relating both to fertility and sterility; of preventing the increase of abortion by encouraging contraception; and stimulating the creation of further planned parenthood advice centres.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The association was founded with the official approval of the Ministry of Health, which also made a grant available for its establishment. It is hoped that in due course the association may expect increasing support from the government for its activities within the MCH framework.

LEGISLATION

The law does not forbid contraception (but only any action which destroys life, i.e. abortion).

FACTS AND FIGURES

The APF has branches in Lisbon, Porto and Funchal. All contraceptives are available. There is thought to be a high incidence of induced abortion.

TRAINING

Medical and paramedical personnel have participated in the IPPF Europe and Near East Regional training scheme.

IPPF AID

£2,000 in 1970.

Situation Report

Distribution LIMITED

Country ROMANIA Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1 01.839-2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			237,500 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	16,311,000	18,403,000	20,010,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE		0.7	1.0% (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	24.9	19.1	23.3 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	12.0	8.7	10.1 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE			54.9 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			4,434,081 (1966)
POPULATION UNDER 15			26%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$780 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			7.8% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR		730 (1963)	740 (1966)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			130 (1966)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The social welfare system includes health insurance and child and maternity allowances as well as paid maternity leave. Medical treatment if free of charge. Education is free and compulsory for ages 6 to 15.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

There is no planned parenthood association in Romania.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The Government, anxious about the decreasing birth rate, introduced legislation in 1966 designed to encourage an increase.

LEGISLATION

A Decree of 1966 restricted the previous liberal legislation on abortion to medical indication, or when the woman has four or more children. As the result of this legislation the incidence of illegal abortion is reported to be increasing.

Legislation has also been introduced making divorce more difficult. Economic inducements towards larger families are being offered; these include higher taxation for childless couples and single people, and priority is being given to the building of nurseries and children's homes.

TRAINING

Physicians have participated in the IPPF Europe and Near East Regional training scheme.

Situation Report

Distribution: LIMITED

Country: SPAIN

Date: FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1

01. 839–2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			504,750 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	27,868,000	30,303,000	32,949,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE			1.0% (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	20.3	21.8	20.1 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	11.6	8.8	9.2 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	68.2	43.7	29.8 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			6,817,483 (1960)
POPULATION UNDER 15			27%
GNP PER CAPITA			US$730 (1968)
GNP PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			6.5% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR		1200 (1963)	820 (1968)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			200 (1963)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

There is a contributors unpaid insurance scheme. Education is free and compulsory for ages 6 to 14.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Planned parenthood advice is available privately and to a limited extent in some hospitals. There is no planned parenthood association.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The official attitude towards planned parenthood is negative.

LEGISLATION

The article relating to contraception in the Spanish Civil Code states: "Any physician initiating the means to prevent procreation will be liable to punishment by imprisonment." Abortion is forbidden except on narrow medical indications.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Oral contraceptives are available on prescription from private physicians. Condoms are available. There is thought to be a high incidence of illegal abortion.

TRAINING

Medical personnel have participated in the Europe and Near East Regional training scheme.

Situation Report

Distribution LIMITED

Country SWITZERLAND

Date FEBRUARY, 1971.

International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18/20 Lower Regent Street, London S.W.1

01.839-2911/6

STATISTICS	1950	1960	LATEST AVAILABLE FIGURES
AREA			41,288 sq.kms.
TOTAL POPULATION	4,694,000	5,362.000	6,230,000 (1969 est.)
POPULATION GROWTH RATE		2.1 (1958-64)	1.3 per 100 (1963-69)
BIRTH RATE	18.1	17.6	16.4 per 1000 (1969)
DEATH RATE	10.5	9.0	9.2 per 1000 (1969)
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	30.1	21.1	16.1 per 1000 (1969)
WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE GROUP (15-44 YRS.)			1,306,750 (1967)
POPULATION UNDER 15			23%
GNI PER CAPITA			US$2,490 (1968)
GNI PER CAPITA GROWTH RATE			2.4% (1961-68)
POPULATION PER DOCTOR			680 (1966)
POPULATION PER HOSPITAL BED			80 (1965)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The Swiss Confederation has a republican federal constitution. Health insurance is compulsory. Health services are basically a Cantonal responsibility. Education is free and compulsory for ages 7 to 14.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD SITUATION

Advice is available from the public health services of the Canton de Vaud and the University Hospitals of Basel, Geneva, and Lausanne.

The Public Health Department of the Canton de Vaud became an affiliate member of the IPPF in 1957.

The Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Familienplanung in Basel promotes planned parenthood through general practitioners and other medical services. Pro Familia, a Federal family welfare organization is a corporate member of the SGF.

Director of Public Health Services, Canton de Vaud: M.R. Burnet.
President S.G.F: Professor G.A. Hauser.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE

The Federal government has no official policy on planned parenthood. The Centre Medico-Social de Pro Familia in Lausanne was established in 1967, with financial support from the Public Health Department of the Canton de Vaud and the local health authority.

LEGISLATION

There is no law against contraception, although local religious influences sometimes make the obtaining of advice difficult. Abortion is available on broad medical indications, and a large number of women from neighbouring countries avail themselves of it. Availability of contraceptive advice depends on the attitude of individual physicians.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The Pro Familia Centre works in close cooperation with the University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Lausanne. All methods of Contraception, except IUDs, are offered at the clinic centre; in Geneva IUDs are offered. A centre was opened in Nyon in June 1969.

TRAINING

Some training is given in the University Hospitals of Basel, Lausanne, and Geneva.

RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD & SEX EDUCATION

The Public Health Department in the Canton de Vaud encourages planned parenthood for the protection of the family and to combat abortion, and publishes sex education literature. Lectures are given by physicians, family counsellors, nurses, and social workers co-operating with the Pro Familia centre, on various aspects of planned parenthood and on sex education. Sex education is also included in the school curricula in the Canton of Geneva.